

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

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S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0349

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM NATO
SUBJ: MBFR: TREATMENT AND SIZE OF INTERNATIONAL COMPONENT

REF: (A) MBFR 0347, DTG 281030Z JUN 77
(B) NATO 6107, DTG 271727Z JUN 77
(C) NATO 6091, DTG 271337Z JUN 77

1. FOR NEGOTIABILITY REASONS CITED REF A AND BECAUSE OF
POSSIBLE RECIPROCAL IMPLICATIONS, DELEGATION BELIEVES SIZE OF
ANY INTERNATIONAL COMPONENT SHOULD BE KEPT SMALL AND SHOULD
BE PRESENTED AS ONE FIGURE. WITH THESE GOALS IN MIND WE
RECOMMEND THAT ONLY THE STAFFS AT BRUSSELS (IMS) AND
CASTEAU (SHAPE) BE INCLUDED, THAT PERSONNEL IN SUBORDINATE
COMMANDS APPEAR AS PART OF NATIONAL RESIDUAL DATA AND THAT AIR
AND GROUND PERSONNEL NOT BE DISTINGUISHED IN THE INTERNATIONAL
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COMPONENT.

2. SUBORDINATE HEADQUARTERS TO SHAPE (SUCH AS AFCENT, CENTAG,
NORTHAG, AMF, LANDJUT, AFFCE, 2ATAF, AND 4ATAF) OUGHT TO BE
EXCLUDED FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMPONENT. NOT ONLY WOULD THEIR
INCLUSION INFLATE THE WESTERN INTERNATIONAL STAFF COMPONENT TO
THE SIZE OF A SOVIET DIVISION, IT COULD FORCE THE EAST TO

FABRICATE AN ANALOG. SINCE PACT FRONTS ARE MULTINATIONAL IN WARTIME, THE EAST COULD CLAIM THREE PACT FRONT STAFFS EQUIVALENT TO CENTAG AND NORTHAG. SUCH A CONSTRUCT COULD MAKE MEANINGFUL IDENTIFICATION OF SOVIET NATIONAL DATA EXTREMELY DIFFICULT.

3. AS TO THE COMPOSITION OF THE IMS-SHAPE FIGURE, RUTH HAS APPARENTLY PROPOSED THAT ONLY GROUND FORCE MANPOWER IN NATO STAFFS BE COUNTED IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMPONENT. IN LIGHT OF BONN'S AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO DISAGGREGATE AIR MANPOWER, THIS POSITION ON AIRMEN ON INTERNATIONAL STAFFS SEEMS BOTH UNNECESSARY AND WITHOUT ANY BASIS IN LOGIC. IF THERE IS TO BE ANY CHANCE AT ALL OF CONVINCING THE EAST TO ACCEPT THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF COMPONENT, IT MUST BE AT LEAST INTERNALLY CONSISTENT AND LOGICALLY DEFENSIBLE.

4. THEREFORE DELEGATION SUGGESTS THAT BOTH GROUND AND AIR MANPOWER ON IMS AND SHAPE STAFFS BE COUNTED AND COMBINED INTO A SINGLE, SMALL FIGURE FOR INTERNATIONAL COMPONENT. SINCE THE TASKS PERFORMED BY THESE PERSONNEL ARE NOT SERVICE ORIENTED AND ARE LARGELY INTERCHANGEABLE BETWEEN SERVICES, THERE IS LITTLE RATIONALE FOR DIVIDING THEM BETWEEN AIR AND GROUND. ONE FIGURE OF BETWEEN 2,000 AND 3,000 PERSONNEL WOULD BE DESIRABLE. RESOR

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